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PRESS RELEASE

Public Consultation launched for the Rhône Decarbonation Project

From the 24th of March to the 20th of June, 2025, a public consultation will be held for the Rhône Decarbonation project, developed by the companies Vicat, SPSE, Elengy, and RTE.

Organized in accordance with the French Environmental Code, this consultation is supervised by three independent guarantors appointed by the National Commission for Public Debate (CNDP). Open to all, the consultation aims to inform the public, address questions, and discuss various aspects of the project, in particular its purpose, implementation, and impacts. Various means of communication and expression will be set up to enable the public to inform themselves and contribute.

The Rhône Decarbonation project involves the creation a carbon capture, transport, liquefaction, and ship-loading chain for CO₂ emissions from the Vicat cement plant located in the Isère municipalities of Montalieu-Vercieu and Bouvesse-Quirieu. The project will use an existing pipeline running along the Rhône Valley and operated by SPSE, leading to a planned liquefaction and ship-loading terminal at the Fos Tonkin site operated by Elengy in Fos-sur-Mer, Bouches-du-Rhône.

In a global context of fighting climate as a worldwide priority, the companies Vicat, SPSE, and Elengy have decided to combine their expertise to propose the Rhône Decarbonation project, contributing to accelerate the ecological transition. The project aims to make the Montalieu-Vercieu plant the first zero-emission CO₂ cement plant in France by 2030, and to help meet European and national targets for greenhouse gas emission reduction and industrial decarbonization. It also aims to contribute to industrial sovereignty and and job preservation in the Rhône Valley.

It would capture 1.2 million tons of unavoidable CO₂ emissions from the Montalieu-Vercieu cement plant, transport them via the SPSE pipeline, and liquefy them at the Fos-Tonkin terminal.

RTE, the French public electricity transmission system operator, is involved in the project through the electrical connection of the Vicat cement plant in Montalieu-Vercieu and the increase of electrical power at the Fos Tonkin terminal operated by Elengy. In accordance with the French Environmental Code, RTE systematically co-appoints the CNDP for large-scale projects, whether involving generation or consumption.

Montalieu-Vercieu factory





Vicat Group

For 170 years, Vicat has been a leading industrial player in the field of building materials, both mineral and bio-based. Vicat is a publicly traded company on the Euronext Paris exchange (part of the SBF 120 index), primarily controlled by the founding family. Committed to achieving carbon neutrality across its value chain by 2050, the company currently operates in three main business areas: Cement, Ready-Mix Concrete (RMC), and Aggregates, as well as complementary activities. Present in 12 countries, both developed and emerging, the cement group employs nearly 10,000 people and achieved consolidated sales of €3.884 billion in 2024. Rooted in local communities, Vicat is developing a circular economy model that benefits everyone and innovates daily to reduce the environmental impact of construction.



SPSE, a long-standing player in the transport and storage of liquid hydrocarbons via pipelines, operates a strategic network of 1,800 km of pipelines connecting the Fos-sur-Mer industrial port area to Southern Europe's industries, notably in France, Switzerland, and Germany. Committed to the energy transition, SPSE leverages its expertise by adapting its existing and available pipeline network to securely transport CO₂, thus contributing to industrial decarbonization.



A pioneer in Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals in France, Elengy brings almost sixty years of experience in the design, development, operation, and maintenance of LNG terminals. The company is also carrying out various projects to decarbonize its operations and contribute to the decarbonization of industry and heavy mobility through the development of bio-LNG, hydrogen, and CCUS technologies.



RTE, France's Transmission System Operator, serves a public mission: ensuring electricity supply at all times and with consistent service quality across the country through its 9,500 employees. RTE manages real-time electricity flows and the balance between production and consumption. It maintains and develops the high and extra-high voltage network (ranging from 63,000 to 400,000 volts), which spans nearly 100,000 kilometers of overhead lines, 7,000 kilometers of underground cables, 2,900 substations in operation or co-operation, and around 20 cross-border lines. The French network, the largest in Europe, has 37 interconnections with neighboring countries. As an independent industrial operator in the neutral energy transition, RTE optimizes and transforms its network to connect electricity generation facilities, regardless of future energy choices. Through its expertise and reports, RTE informs the choices made by public authorities.